

# Femmes D'Esprit

C. N. R.  
Archives



h||ow

Spring, 2011

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Bekki Mui, '06, balances the

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*Photo credit: Dr. Amy Bass*

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Wow, what a crazy first semester!

At this point in the year I've had the pleasure of having met the majority of our "new" honors students personally, but on behalf of the class of 2011, I would like to give a warm (official) welcome to the honors class of 2014!

You have a lot to look forward to over the next four years, but only if you go out and look for those opportunities. Thankfully, at a small school like CNR, pretty much anything is possible if you stick your nose in the right places. You could go abroad for a few weeks or months, and get the feel of another culture. You could go on The Plunge with Campus Ministry and perform service for others. You could participate in the Model UN and get a taste for how the United Nations functions up close and personal. You could even intern for ABC if television is what suits your fancy. Or you could stay on campus and work with a number of associations trying to help create a vision of CNR that works for you. Each of us graduating in the class of 2011 have done these things and more, but you'll have to wait until the next edition of *Femmes*, which will be devoted to the graduating seniors, to find out who did what and how.

You will all have great adventures in your life if you go looking for them. Sometimes, you'll even have great adventures when you aren't expecting them, and then you'll be able to look back on how they created the person you've become. All I ask while you go out and make your own journey is that you all stay excited about *something*. It might not always be school, and that's okay. You are a person first and a student second. Sometimes honors students can forget their own humanity under the pressure to do positively everything, but it is very important to remember that you come first. Picking something you can be passionate and excited about and then working towards it will help keep you focused and grounded over the next four years. Some semesters will be better than others, it's simply a fact of life, and having this goal in mind will help you see the light at the end of the tunnel as you work through the obstacles you meet.

So what are you passionate about right now? Your adventure is waiting.

- Mary Henderson, '11, Editor



Mary Henderson hugs a tree in the Great Swamp of New Jersey at the Northeast Regional Honors Council's annual conference in 2008.

# HONORS MATTERS: WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Dr. Amy Bass, Associate Professor of History, Honors Program Director

*Of course there's a lot of knowledge in universities: the freshmen bring a little in; the seniors don't take much away, so knowledge sort of accumulates.*

Abbott Lawrence Lowell

Welcome Fish. Frosh. Fresher. Novice. Newbie. Snorter. Fresh-meat. Freshman. Freshperson. Freshwomen.

None of those words sound all that respectable now, do they? Nope. Not at all. So let's try it again: Welcome First-Year students. Kind of boring, to be sure, but at least it is inclusive and gender neutral. Some might sneer and claim that to drop the use of the word "freshmen" and replace it with "first-years" is simply being politically correct, a phrase that has been ridiculed to represent a whole line of over-sensitive thinking. But is it really such a bad thing to be over-sensitive?

Some politically correct phrasing has had quite an impact on American life. The mentally retarded are now mentally handicapped or challenged. Poor people are now more specifically described as low-income. While some might find these transitions of language to be superficial, they merely represent what language can do: represent a turn of consciousness.

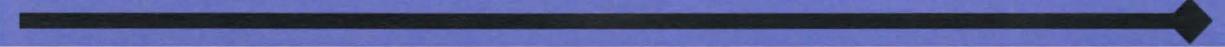
In terms of gender politics, most of these tweaks are actually quite simple: waiters and waitresses can be shortened to simple servers. Stewards and stewardesses are flight attendants. Chairmen and chairwomen and chairpersons are chairs, while anchor is a suitable and succinct label for anyone sitting at a television news desk.

Here at The College of New Rochelle, gender politics are important: our Ursuline Heritage enables us to understand the landscape of higher education from a very particular perspective that puts women front and center. The word freshman, without question, is a gender-biased term that assumes college students are men. At one point in time, of course, this was true: college students were exclusively men for a large part of the early history of the university. Women like Mother Irene Gill contributed to how such a course of events changed: the founding of The College of New Rochelle is part of the story of how education became an important part of a young woman's development.

Some might dismiss all of this as merely semantics. But as French Linguist Ferdinand de Saussure has taught us, we cannot dismiss semantics – semantics are meaning, and meaning is, well, meaningful. Words are how we express ourselves both on paper and verbally – to make that process insignificant is to take away powerful tools. Every time the word freshman is uttered, a statement, albeit perhaps an unintentional one, is being made about gender equality. A biased language is part of a biased society, a society in which we have only a handful of Fortune 500 CEOs who are women, a society in which women make 76 cents for every dollar a man makes.

The democracy of language, of course, is that we have a choice: we live in a world full of racist and sexist and ageist and homophobic language. We have language that can exclude just about everyone. Which means that when we make a choice *not* to say something, or to say something in a different way, we are taking up the opportunity to express power with our voices. To replace the word freshman with first-year, then, means that we understand that women are college students. Women are intelligent. Women have potential.

First-year is not politically correct language; it is accurate language. Women are college students (indeed, many universities have a much larger female population than male). Let's acknowledge that. Now, about this word sophomore.....



## WHAT HAS HONORS BEEN UP TO?

### **September:**

- ◊ Welcomed nine first-year students to the Honors Program.
- ◊ Welcomed back **Dr. Amy Bass**, Honors Program Director, from her spring sabbatical.
- ◊ Welcomed **Cassie Irons** as the Resident Advisor of the Honors wing.

### **October:**

- ◊ Elected a new Honors Board: **Kayla Cummings, Alyssa Negron, Kristina Nilaj, Justinne Orjuela, Akosuah Agyei, Mary Henderson, and Darianna Parra.**
- ◊ Held the first Honors Board Meeting of the year.
- ◊ Watched with pride as **Kristen Diaz** '11, accepted the Serviam Award.
- ◊ Welcomed the First Year cohort with a party in Ursuline.

### **November:**

- ◊ Submitted proposals to the Northeast Regional Honors Council's annual conference, to be held in Portland, Maine, next spring.
- ◊ Played key behind-the-scenes and onstage roles in CNR Drama's production of *Fifth of July*.
- ◊ Watched with pride as **Hellen Konyango** '11, presented at the BACCHUS Network General Assembly Conference in Indianapolis
- ◊ Watched with pride as the CNR Blue Angels volleyball team defended its HVWAC championship title, and Honors student **Libby Johnston** '13, was named tournament MVP and named to the All-Conference team.

### **December:**

- ◊ Found out that **Darianna Parra** '11, and **Kristen Diaz** '11 had their proposals accepted to the Northeast Regional Honors Council's annual conference.
- ◊ Booked hotel rooms in Portland, ME, for the NRHC conference.

### **January:**

- ◊ Welcomed everyone back for a snowy start to the spring semester.
- ◊ Welcomed Daniel Smith as a new faculty member of the Honors Program.
- ◊ Set April 28, 2011 as the date for Honors Conference Day.

### **February:**

- ◊ Registered Darianna, Kristen, and Cassie for the NRHC conference — Cassie will be reporting on the conference for *Femmes*!

# REFLECTION: CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Justine Orjuela, '12

*"Freedom, Truth, and Charity: promoting human development as a vocation."*

Last May 23, 2010, I had the pleasure of being nominated along with one of my friends, Christine Lock, to attend the Catholic Social Teaching Seminar (CTS). At first, one may wonder what Catholic Social teaching is? Well precisely the answer to this question is what we set out to discover. Catholic Social Teaching implies using the teachings of solidarity and human value that is found within the Catholic doctrine to educate, promote, and share with others the importance of loving others by the virtue of being of the same human nature. As the title of the seminar indicates, CST is a vocation, "Freedom, Truth, and Charity: promoting human development as a vocation".

The seminar itself was divided into two very distinct fields that came together to show the activity of the Catholic Church in society. First, I experienced the spirituality of being Catholic; this I will admit, at first I was a bit skeptic of because of personal doubts. However, it was the sharing of a moment of prayer, it was the being in a room with people who held your hand to sing a long a song meant to thank and strengthen the spirit, it was the moments of silence that made the world stop so that I could meditate upon the moment and feel happy because this silence was peace — a comfort, a moment elevating your spirit to positive thoughts. This, I would say, was an amazing experience

that we went through every day and night for the five days we were there.

The second was a productive and proactive experience working with people from the Path to Peace Foundation, such as sisters from all vocations working at the office, Monsignor Robert Meyer as Chief of staff to president and CEO of St. Vincent Medical Center, Father Bene amongst many other priests and especially meeting with H.E Archbishop Celestino Migliore, the permanent observer of the Holy See to the United Nations. Through the many talks by Ambassadors such as Oscar de Rojas, Economics Professor Charles Clark, Professor Amy Uelmen, as well as many others, the most interesting and important aspect we learned is that the role of the Catholic Church as a religious entity is not a passive, strictly religious model for Catholics. It is an active and involved entity that uses its vocation of charity, freedom and truth, teachings rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ, that can be applied for the development and betterment of our society. These are teachings that place the value of human life and dignity as a priority which is a parallel to the mission of the Declaration of Human Rights as declared by the United Nations, meaning that religious teachings and social freedoms come to a point of congruency. Precisely, this is the mission of the Holy See at the United Nations; to be a present and

active force in the overseeing any document such as a resolution or working paper such that it adheres to being a document created by member states that bears in mind the protection of the human dignity and life. The down side? That the Holy See delegation is a non-voting entity; meaning that it can suggest and remind member states of the morality of a document by simply asking is it right to do such and such , while having no voting power upon the document.

Overall it was a very busy but great experience. We became acquainted with terminology, with the type of work, and with the voting system of the United Nations, meanwhile having the perspective of the Holy See. It made appreciate the great effort and its great contribution at the United Nations, not as a religious voice but as the voice of the people. Now, I say, Who Knew? CTS offered a completely different aspect of the Catholic Church.

Lastly, what was the one best part of the seminar? What will I never forget? All the friends, people and contacts I met and the nature of the activities we shared together. First, we had a very diverse group; many of the other students that attended were from New Jersey, Pennsyl-

vania, Texas, Bronx, Boston, etc. For the five days we shared, we made friends with whom we shared dinner, talked, played, prayed, joked, danced and shared incredible experiences. Some of these experiences ranged from going to St. Francis at 5am to work at the breadline as volunteers, to visiting covenant house, to enjoying a cruise line trip along the shorelines of New York City. One of the things I must say that we all bring home, is the message that we should be thankful and feel fortunate to have so many things, so many opportunities while others have none. Some of the girls in the covenant house had stories that were heartbreaking, the sense of hopelessness brought tears to most of us who recognized that those girls were just like us, our age, with dreams like ours, just without direction and without the opportunity of ever becoming real. The question is what can we do? Can we do something as a society to change this?

Overall, CTS Seminar was a wonderful and unforgettable experience. It's a worthwhile, fun, educational, and most of all it offers the opportunity for a spiritual experience that you can have at the beautiful retreat Riverdale Retreat Center. What more of an experience can you ask for?





## HONORS COURSES: SPRING 2011

**HON 108: TOPICS IN IDENTITY: RACE AND ETHNICITY****Dr. Amy Bass**

Who is America? When you sit down in class, do you look at your colleagues and see difference? How do you articulate it? Are you so afraid of it, you ignore it? This course is about finding a language and creating an understanding of how identity functions in everyday life. We will engage in critical investigations of cultural attitudes, ideas, and perceptions of race and ethnicity in the U.S., using poetry (Harlem Renaissance), television ("Amos-n-Andy"), fiction (Julie Otsuka), memoir (Esmerelda Santiago, Dalton Conley), film (*Zoot Suit*), music (Eminem), and essays (Alice Walker, Norman Mailer) that inspire consideration on how race and ethnicity are constructed and maintained, challenged and contested, and the roles that each play in the American imagination. In understanding the complex ways in which race and ethnicity manifest in society, students will think, discuss, and write critically on how various vehicles of identity operate.

**HON 289: The Art of Comedy****Mr. Daniel Smith**

From Aristophanes to Woody Allen, from Plautus to Monty Python, from Moliere to *Mad Magazine*, comedy is an art form that has aroused controversy, criticism, theoretical discussion, and, of course, laughter. What is it that makes a work of art — be it a novel, a play, a poem, a movie, or a stand-up act — funny? Is it the content, the delivery, the performer's attitude, the audience's expectations? All of the above? Can we even ask the question without ruining the joke? The course will explore the ancient and still-thriving art of comedy by investigating various theories of comedy; delineating the various manifestations (satire, parody, farce, black humor, etc.) and stock characters (the clown, the trickster, the sap, the egghead) of the genre; and, especially, by discussing some of the greatest examples of comedy ever produced. We will watch films and theatrical performances, read stories and novels, and even make a trip to New York to see live comedy.

**HON 386 Honors Junior Colloquium: Human Rights****Dr. Anne McKernan**

The second part of the one-year, six-credit experience, builds on the Fall Seminar, "Human Rights." Operating primarily as a directed study, students will design an individual project on some aspect of Human Rights analysis and discourse developed during the Fall semester, assisted by faculty and librarian mentors, and attend resource workshops and group process meetings. Students will share research techniques and resources, make progress reports, participate in peer review, and plan and present at Honors Conference Day. Open only to members of Fall 2010 colloquium.

**HON 491 SENIOR SYMPOSIUM II****Dr. Nick Smart**

The second part of this year-long capstone senior experience considers a variety of texts that reflect both the disciplinary interests of the Class of 2011 as well as their interdisciplinary training. Using the book analysis framework created by the class in the fall semester, as well as the reading list developed, students will deliberate (over a series of lengthy conversations and written exchanges) and choose the book that will welcome the incoming first year Honors class. Finally, a letter will be crafted by the group to the incoming students outlining why the particular text was chosen for them to begin their Honors career with.



# HONORS COURSES: FALL 2011

## FIRST YEAR OFFERINGS:

**HONORS 101: THE SELF IN CONTEXT, DR. NELSON ONG**

**HONORS 105: CRITICAL RESEARCH ESSAY, DR. ROXANNE ZIMMER**

## UPPER-DIVISION OFFERINGS:

**HONORS 285: POPULAR CULTURE & THE MAKING OF MODERN AMERICA DR. AMY BASS**

This course explores popular culture on two levels: the various “culture industries” – film, television, music, sports – as they emerged from the mid-19th century to the contemporary period, and a more conceptually based definition of “culture.” Students will unpack the struggles that occur on cultural terrain, determining how “culture” operates as a canvas of empowerment for some and as a force of manipulation for others. Explorations into the cultural constructions of class, race, gender, sexuality, and youth will be emphasized as students find out why, as one historian has written, Mickey Mouse is as important as any president. Open to sophomores to seniors.

**HONORS 385: WOMEN & THE LAW**

**DR. DANIEL McCARTHY**

The first part of a year-long colloquium, this examination of legal theory and the contemporary American legal system from a feminist perspective considers the effects of the law on women's lives. Topics include understanding gender as a social and cultural construction that exerts influence on the structure and interpretation of the law; women's participation in the legal profession; women's varied roles in relation to the legal system; and feminist challenges to mainstream legal thought and processes. The course will examine several controversial issues that exemplify and clarify the nature of these challenges in more depth, and create the foundation for directed research in the spring. Open to juniors and seniors.

**HON 490: SENIOR SYMPOSIUM**

**DR. MICHAEL QUINN**

Now part of Honors tradition, the first part of this year-long capstone symposium asks seniors to READ! Students, in consultation with disciplinary mentors, will consider a variety of texts that reflects both their major interests and their interdisciplinary training, producing sound written analysis and evaluation of their choices based on criteria they develop, and creating a list of 5 to 8 books for the group to read together. As the course proceeds into next semester, a series of deliberations and conversations – including online discussion groups – for each text will continue, with the goal of choosing the common reading for the incoming Honors class. Open to seniors only.

# THE ART OF THE BOOK

Margie Neuhaus, Associate Professor of Art

To hold a hand made book, where the structural form, images and text are integrated in innovative and unique ways, allows each reader to have an intimate experience with and connect to the artist in a very personal way. This communication maximizes a visual and tactile experience in ways quite different than experiences of a painting, drawing or sculpture.

A book presents a quiet space for delivering information. It offers an alternative method to both communicate and read images and information than the manner it is delivered and perceived through today's digital media. And in the case of artist's books, innovative and experimental use of binding, sequencing, and layout illuminate the artist's vision in intriguing and exciting ways. As in many arts, stretching the rules leads to new ways of making images, and ultimately new ways of seeing, thinking and perceiving.

In The Art of the Book course during fall 2010, we explored recent historical and contemporary concepts of artists' books and examined visual formats of text in the book through readings and viewing original publications made by artists. The course introduced different conceptual and structural formats of the book. Artists in the course experimented with materials, form, and structure. Each artist created books where they generated the content, style and media, and with each book these elements all converge to support and be supported by the concepts and ideas of the book.

At a time when books and print material are more readily available in digital format, it is interesting to note the quantity of artists' books being produced. Over 200 artists, publishers and booksellers showed work at the NY Artist Book Fair held at MOMA PS 1 Museum in Long Island City, Queens, creating an optimal field trip experience for students in The Art of the Book class. The sheer number, individual nature and quality of the work was an

inspiration to all of us and evidence that artists' books are indeed shared and valued.

An art form in its own right, artists books have precedents reaching back centuries, but have really come into their own in the 20th century. Artists as varied as William Blake, in the 19th century and the contemporary Martha Rosler have investigated the issues of their day in thought provoking ways in book form. Blake's personal explorations of religion and mythology, and Rosler's critique of society's ignorance of injustices and abuse of power are potent and rich as artist's books. Through these works the artists show a self-conscious knowledge of books as objects and forms, and a willingness to push the boundaries of how a book functions to best put forth their vision.

The creator of artist books is afforded a means for creating very personal works. The following selection of books exemplifies some conceptual and structural departures and interrogations of the book form possible in artist's books. Each was created during this semester's class.

Monica Alvarez, in her book 6:00pm uses the comic form to create a short story of a pretty, young, sassy women's struggle with self-image. The first set of drawings places the viewer at the beginning of her meeting with a therapist. We gain entry into her thoughts and feelings as we see her tell the therapist about her day. The drawings show her getting dressed at home, at school, in an exchange with a guy in the cafeteria, and as she talks with her therapist. The roller coaster of emotions is expressed through the drawings and variations of handwritten text. The drawings and writing convey a personality and gives a sense of immediacy to the range of emotions.

Mary Henderson created Phoenix Down, an accordion book made of pages folded in a zigzag format. The book combines drawings and text to allow the reader to experi-

ence the surprise of a secret shared through a conversation between two friends. Mary changes the font to express the various formats of the conversation. It began as a text exchange, moved to a phone conversation, and finally continued in person. The book is small, and its intimate scale conveys the feeling of a shared secret; yet the drawings are bright and colorful embodying the impact of the revelation. The accordion format allows the book to be spread wide open and placed on display. In this case the accordion format becomes a metaphor for the exposure.

Kristina Nilaj's book *Day and Night* uses the Dos á Dos structure that places codices back to back. The artist reveals various animals active in the day in one book, and creatures active at night in the other. The photographs are taken from a close vantage point and embody a sense of awe and surprise at seeing an animal up close or normally hidden in the dark. A relationship to the cycles of day and night is revealed, referenced with images of the moon and sun, with the direction of the reading of the two connected books as the viewer moves from day to night and back again.

The book *Coffee Tea* by Samantha Quatro is a French Door structure, which has two paired codices, bound on opposite sides and placed side by side like French doors. Her book feels like a love letter and a break up letter, one written to "tea" that she is breaking off and is taking up with "coffee". The book on the left can be read straight through as a profession of love for "coffee", the book on the right can be read through as a break up with "tea", read together they convey the simultaneity of a romance dissolution and union as experienced in life.

Like many technologies, when infused with humanity, books can meld structure and content to yield completely new forms of expression. Johanna Drucker points to the necessity of this human dimension in The Century of Artist's Books. She states, "but ultimately an artist's book has to have some conviction, some soul, some reason to be and to be a book in order to succeed." The enthusiasm for the

course makes me believe that this group will continue to make and share books that embody this conviction, yielding much satisfaction and insight for both creator and reader.



*Professor Margie Neuhaus received her M.F.A. from Bard College, and a B.F.A. from Carnegie Mellon University. She has exhibited her work widely, including at Socrates Sculpture Park, P.S. 122, Wave Hill, Convergence XI, and the Sideshow Gallery. She has received many awards for her work, including a fellowship at the MacDowell Colony and an artist residency at Virginia Center for the Creative Arts.*

*To learn more about her work, please visit:  
[www.margieneuhaus.com/art/Home.html](http://www.margieneuhaus.com/art/Home.html)*

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**The work of the students in this course will be on display for all to see at Honors Conference Day, April 28, 2011.**

# The Art of the Book



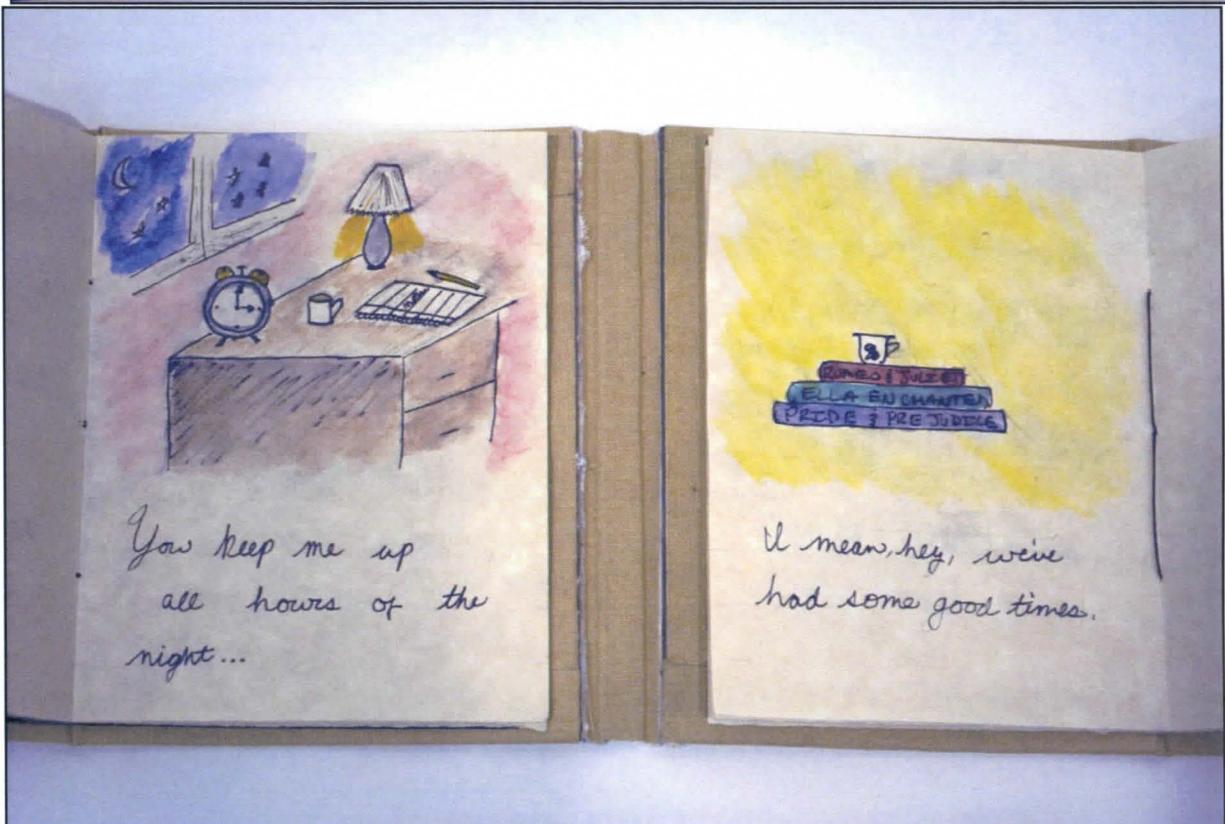
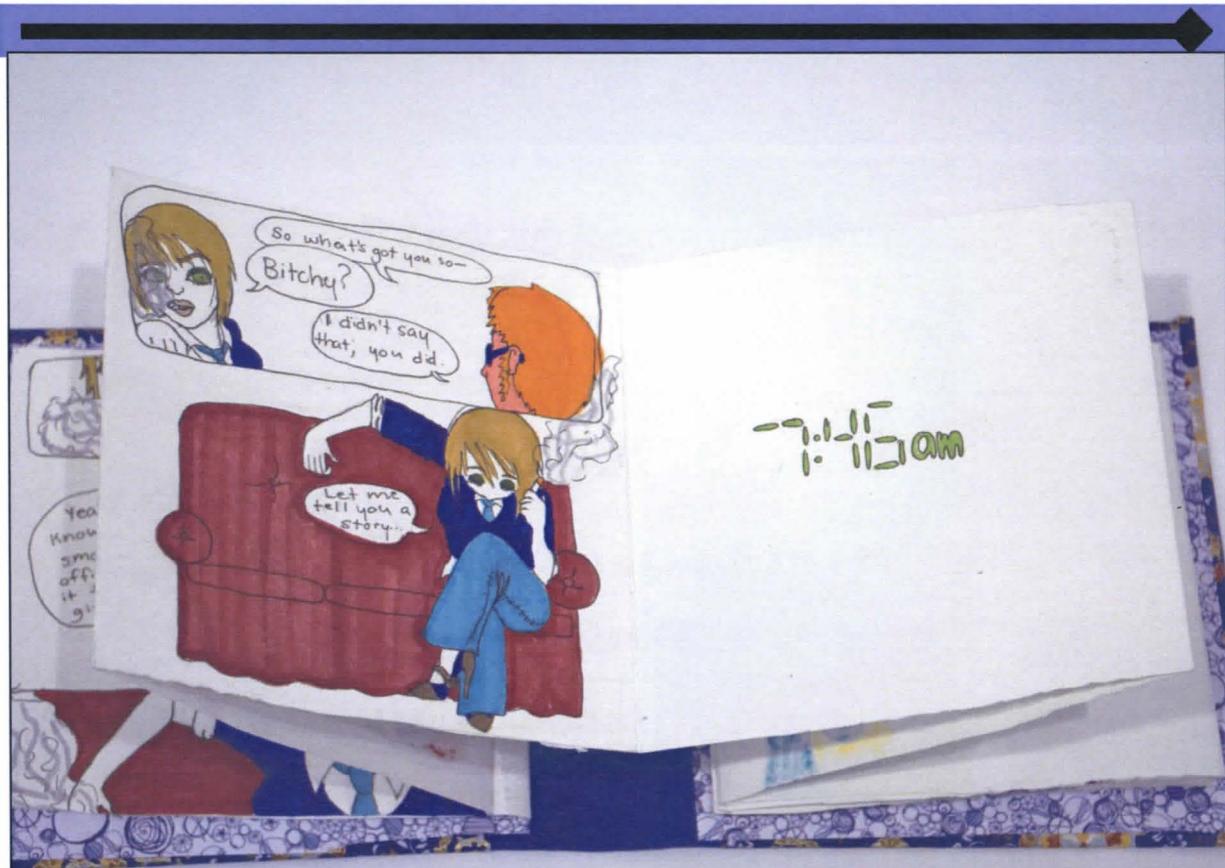


## The Art of the Book



A vertical stack of 12 red, 3D-style letters arranged in four columns of three rows each. The letters are: T, h, o, A, r, t, o, f, t, h, o, B, o, o, k.





# WELCOME CLASS OF 2014

In Honors Program tradition, some of this year's first-year cohort share some details about themselves:

## ALYSSA NEGRON

Hey guys! My name is Alyssa Negron and I'm from the Bronx. I'm a commuter but I that won't stop me from getting involved in campus ac-



tivities. I'm double majoring in Political Science and International Relations, and plan on becoming a lawyer. I'm a very friendly person and I just take it day by day. Even though I've only been here a little while, I've been enjoying CNR and feel like this is a good place for me. Never hesitate to say hi :) I hope everyone has a very successful year!

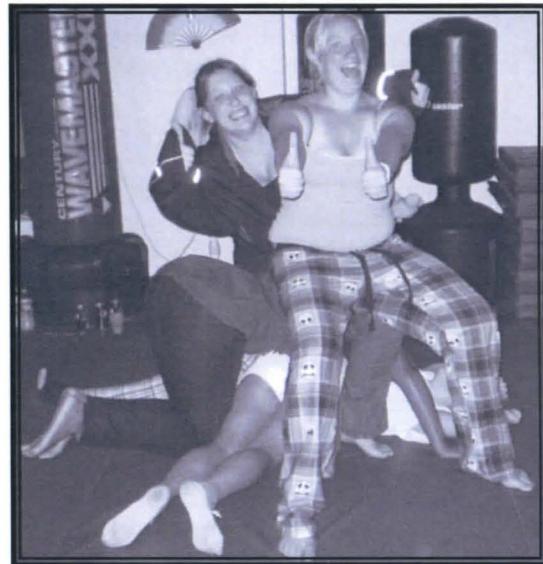


## ANGELICA LOPEZ

Hi! My name is Angelica Lopez. I came to this college because I fell in love with the campus the moment I saw it. It was .....beautiful. Well that being said, I am guessing that you are guessing that I am a nature person. Well, you might not be guessing that...but I am. I love the outdoors. I love trees. I love flowers and snow and rain. I love to go to farms and tend to the sheep and pigs and horses. I also love singing and my goal is to someday become a recognized singer. It would be incredible and I know that it is going to happen because I have faith in myself and in God. I know that if he wants this dream to become a reality, it will happen. I came to this college to achieve a Business degree. I hope to learn so much that I can get a job anywhere I want. I am a Roman Catholic and I attend mass every Sunday if God permits. I enjoy watching scary movies (the blood...it's just ketchup)..jejejeje. I love to laugh and I am nice and sweet. I hope to be able to meet everybody in the honors program and to have an awesome year...yeah!

## 25 random facts about Alissa Sciommeri:

- ◊ I hail from the East End of Long Island, by the Hamptons but not really
- ◊ I am a biology major at CNR
- ◊ I have been playing volleyball since 7<sup>th</sup> grade, running track in 10<sup>th</sup> and I started swimming this year
- ◊ I tore a ligament in my knee, sprained both my ankles and jammed both my wrists and 7 out of 10 fingers including both thumbs playing volleyball
- ◊ I like alt. rock, hard rock, punk rock and Lady Gaga
- ◊ My favorite bands are All Time Low, Evanescence, Within Temptation, The Ramones, Breaking Benjamin and Linkin Park
- ◊ I was listening to All Time Low typing this
- ◊ I love Harry Potter, if I went to Hogwarts I would be in Gryffindor
- ◊ I love anime, my three favorites are Bleach, Crimson Hero and Vampire Knight
- ◊ I draw Anime
- ◊ Since coming to CNR I have become addicted to Snapple Peach Iced Tea, there's a bottle in my laptop bag as I am typing this
- ◊ I am in the middle of writing a novel
- ◊ I have an extremely dry sense of humor and I can be very sarcastic
- ◊ I don't really watch TV but I love the shows Flashpoint, Miami Medical, CSI, and NCIS
- ◊ I love to travel and been to Italy and I have driven from California to New York
- ◊ Sixteen is my lucky number
- ◊ I really would like to go to London, Paris, Madrid, and Tokyo



## Emily Tomusko

Hello all! My name is Emily Tomusko of the Shire! I am an international freshman student from Middle Earth, and I'm really enjoying life at The College of New Rochelle thus far. I'm taking a few years off to go to college, because the Ring is getting a little heavy nowadays. My best friend's name is Sam, and he's a pretty cool guy. We call him, "Samwise the Brave." Life in a hobbit house is a lot different than life in a dorm, but I'm pretty sure that I'll be able to get used to it just fine.



## Kayla Cummings

Hi, my name is Kayla Cummings. I'm from the Buffalo area (Amherst, NY) but I have lived in several different places before Buffalo. Now I am a resident at The College of New Rochelle and dual-majoring in International Studies and Economics. I am involved in Model UN, the Honors Board, and am working in our college garden behind the library. When I have spare time I like to read fantasy books, like the Inheritance Trilogy, cook a variety of foods (mostly sweets), practice cake decorating, and other crafts. The most recent craft project I've finished was a cat bed in the shape of a fish. The bed gives my cats a comfy place to sleep while I'm gone. I have two cats; one is a black cat named Midnight that loves to play fetch and the other is a black and white terror named Alfred who looks like a butler. If you haven't figured it out yet I'm a cat lover.

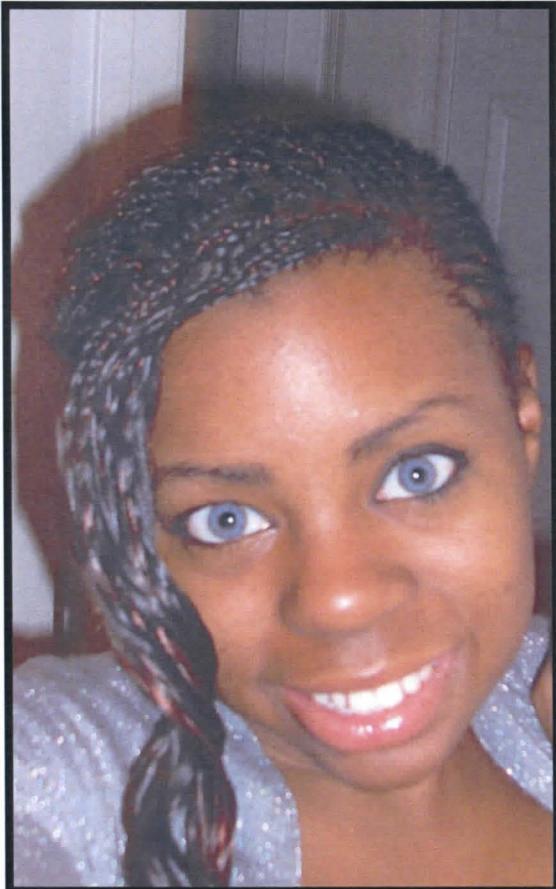


## Regina Alvarado

Hi everyone! My name is Regina Alvarado. I was born in Mexico City but I lived in Houston before I came to CNR. I'm majoring in Biology with the intention of going to Med School. Music is my passion! I play the violin and have been doing so for over eight years now. I also write music. I love Hello Kitty, new pencils, Pumpkin Spice Lattes, foreign accents, Mac Books, Nutella, sweaters, Freakazoid, The Rocky Horror Picture Show, and chick flicks, to name a few things. My favorite books include *Les Misérables* (which is also my favorite musical) and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (which is also my favorite Disney movie although the movie is nothing like the book.) *Much Ado About Nothing* is my favorite Shakespeare play. My favorite painter is Rene Magritte. My favorite superhero is Iron Man and my favorite movie is Sherlock Holmes. I am the first person in my family to leave the state for college and its already starting to feel like home.

## Precious Lewis

My name is Precious. I am an artist. At least that's what I choose to believe, much to the disbelief of my fellow honor students! I am from Richmond, VA a very small place compared to



New York but I am not having too much of a hard time adjusting so I'm very optimistic so far! I love to meet new people and to laugh and interact with my friends and family. I think I am a comedian at heart but I won't quit my day job, working in accounts payable, for now! I love the college experience so far. Even my worst days I have found myself learning something new about myself and other people. In my spare time I like to listen to music and read. If you ever get a chance to meet me you will know right away how much of a dork I am, but I embrace it and use it to my advantage! Coming to college, I didn't realize what a great treat I was in for. From being involved in a hunger banquet to walking the streets in New York City protesting for Haiti I have never found myself bored. When my peers see me they always comment on my lack of breath because I see no need to wait for anything to come find me: I go for it. I am determined to make these four years of my life a stepping-stone to my greater achievements I foresee myself accomplishing. With hard work and dedication I do not see anything stopping me or anyone else who have dreams to achieve them!

## Who is Who in the First Year Cohort

- Regina Alvarado
- Kayla Cummings
- Bionca Hinton
- Precious Lewis
- Angelica Lopez
- Maya Menon
- Alyssa Negron
- Alissa Sciommeri
- Emily Tomusko



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